

Claims

1. A mat with a textile surface and an elastomer backing that includes elastomer crumbs and a binder; characterised in that the elastomer backing includes voids between the elastomer crumbs.
2. A mat according to claim 1 wherein the elastomer crumb is crumbed vulcanised rubber.
3. A mat according to claim 2 wherein the rubber is nitrile rubber.
4. A mat according to any preceding claim wherein the elastomer backing has a bulk density less than the solid density of the elastomer crumb material.
5. A mat according to claim 4, characterised in that the elastomer backing has a bulk density in the range 45 to 70%, preferably 55 to 70%, of the solid density of the elastomer crumb material.
6. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the backing has a density of less than 1g/cm^3 .
7. A mat according to claim 6, characterised in that the backing has a density in the range 0.5 to 0.9g/cm^3 , preferably 0.7 to 0.9g/cm^3 .
8. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the elastomer backing exhibits a deformability, as measured by the test herein defined, of at least 14%, preferably 14 to 50%, more preferably 14 to 25%.
9. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the elastomer backing exhibits a tear resistance strength of at least 0.8N/mm^2 .
10. A mat according to any preceding claim in which the backing has a thickness of at least 1 mm.
11. A mat according to any preceding claim in which the crumb size is less than 5 mm diameter and is preferably substantially in the range 2 to 4 mm.
12. A mat according to any preceding claim in which the elastomer crumb backing includes at least 10% by weight powdered elastomer crumb.
13. A mat according to any preceding claim in which the binder is present at a level of from 2 to 20%.

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14. A mat according to claim 13, in which the elastomer crumb backing includes less than 1% by weight powdered elastomer crumb and the binder is present at a level of from 2 to 12%.
15. A mat according to claim 13, wherein the elastomer crumb backing includes at least 10% by weight powdered elastomer crumb and the binder level lies in the range 9 to 20%, preferably about 14%.
16. A mat according to any preceding claim in which the binder is a polyurethane MDI binder.
17. A mat according to claim 16 in which the binder is selected from the group consisting of 4,4-methylene di-p-phenylene isocyanate (MDI) polyurethane one- and two-component adhesives.
18. A mat according to claim 17 in which the binder is a solvent free one component polyurethane adhesive.
19. A mat according to any one of claims 1 to 15 in which the binder is a hot melt binder.
20. A mat according to any preceding claim in which the backing includes powdered additives selected from the group consisting of anti-microbial additives, anti-flammability additives, pigments, such as iron oxide, and anti-static additives, such as carbon fibres.
21. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that a crumb rubber border extending beyond the periphery of the textile surface is provided on at least two opposite edges of the mat.
22. A mat according to claim 21 comprising a crumb rubber border extending around the entire periphery of the mat.
23. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the unwashed textile surface has a sand retention value of at least 1000 g/m².
24. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the textile surface comprises a tufted pile textile, including tufts of yarn tufted into a tufting substrate.
25. A mat according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the textile surface comprises a knitted, woven or non-woven textile, or a flock surface.
26. A mat according to any preceding claim, wherein an edging strip is bonded to the elastomer backing adjacent at least one edge thereof.
27. A mat according to claim 26, wherein the textile surface partially overlaps and is bonded to the edging strip.

28. A mat according to any preceding claim, which is a floor mat.
29. A mat according to any one of claims 1 to 27, which is a table mat.
30. A mat according to any one of claims 1 to 27, which is a bar runner.